1990. Based on Detailed Project Report a revised proposal for phase I of the Project with a completion cost of Rs. 1294.41 crore by the year 2005 was approved by Cabinet in October 1995. The activities relating to first phase of the Project have commenced in Nov. 95. The Project is to be completed in two phases. The cost estimates as well as date of completion of the second phase have not been worked out.

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission

3859. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission; and

(b) if so, the details including objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b). Consequent upon the announcement of Modified Drug Policy in September, 1994, the Government have initiated a proposal to set up a National Drug Authority in which the setting, up of an Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission for preparation and updating of the Indian Pharmacopoeia has been envisaged.

ISI Activities

3860. SHRI O.P. JINDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item published in 'Navbharat Times' dated July 20, 1996 under the caption "Kashmir mei ugravad ko badava dene ke liye I.S.I. ke teen wing";

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government proposed to hold any talks with the Government of Pakistan in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to check the activities of I.S.I. in India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani agencies continue to support and promote terrorist activities directed against India.

(c) to (e). Government have and will take all measures to combat terrorist activities directed against India. Government have taken up the matter of Pakistan's support and promotion of terrorism with Pakistan on a number of occasions.

World Bank Report on Women Health

3861. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a World Bank Report on women's health released in India to June, 1996, cataloguing the variety of ways in which women are discriminated against; and

(b) if so, the steps Government contemplates to take to eliminate such discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps already initiated in this regard interalia include:

a. National Policy for the Empowerment of Women has been formulated.

b. National Commission for women has also been set up to safeguard the rights and legal entitlements of women.

c. Govt. has been providing services to pregnant and lactating mothers through Mothers and Child Health programmes. Govt. is now proposing to launch comprehensive Reproductive and Child Health Project which aims at providing reproductive health services for both females and males including gender equality through IEC campaigns.

d. The Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques Act has been passed which specifically prohibits sex determination of foetus.

[Translation]

Development of LCA

3862. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRI PINAKI MISRA:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first phase trial runs on a static test-bed of the indigenous Kaveri engine being made for the Light Combat Aircraft has been conducted;

(b) if so, the fate of the trial;